



California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair



Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

Sacramento Main Office

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Linda S. Adams

Secretary for
Environmental Protection

23 February 2009

Mrs. Linda Alston
Mr. John Alston
1010 Highway 99W
Orland, CA 95963

Ms. Elsie Sewald
22954 Christian Rd
Orland, CA 95963

NOTICE

INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR GILBERT ALSTON, JOHN ALSTON AND ELSIE SEWALD, DBA ALSTON FARMS DAIRY NO. 2 TEHAMA COUNTY

TO ALL CONCERNED PERSONS AND AGENCIES:

Enclosed for your review is a copy of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Alston Farms Dairy No. 2. Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) staff proposes to request the Board to approve the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration at its **23/24 April 2009** meeting at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova.

Gilbert Alston, John Alston and Elsie Sewald require individual Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) under California Water Code section 13263 for the reopening of the dairy located at 22954 Christian Road in Orland, Tehama County. The 571 acre facility closed as a dairy in 2002. The reopened dairy will house 400 milk cows in the production area and an additional 450 dry cows and bred heifers in the pastures of the dairy, for a total of 850 jersey cows. The facility cannot be covered under the Central Valley Water Board General Order for Existing Milk Cow Dairies, Order No. R5-2007-0035, which regulates only those dairies operating as of 17 October 2005. The CEQA study is required in support of issuance of individual WDRs for operation of the dairy.

The dairy will generate solid manure and manure wastewater. Solid manure and manure wastewater will be collected and stored in a synthetic lined pond and will be applied to pasture and cropland at agronomic rates in accordance with a nutrient management plan. Use of a synthetic lined pond for wastewater and a nutrient management plan to regulate wastewater application to cropland will mitigate any environmental impacts from the dairy. Groundwater monitoring will be used to confirm the lack of environmental impacts.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Interested persons may download the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's Internet website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/. If you do not have access to the Internet or otherwise require a paper copy of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration be sent to you, please contact Jennifer LaBay at (916) 464-4735.

If you have any comments on the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, your written comments must be submitted to the California State Clearinghouse or the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board office by **25 March 2009** in order for us to give them full consideration prior to the Board meeting.

Comments mailed to the State Clearinghouse should reference **SCH# 2009-02-2060** and be mailed to the following address:

State Clearinghouse
PO Box 3044, Room 212
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments mailed to the Regional Board can be mailed to:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Attention: Jennifer LaBay
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer LaBay at (916) 464-4735.

JENNIFER LABAY
Environmental Scientist
Confined Animal Facility Regulatory Unit

Enclosures: Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

cc w/o enclosure(s): see next page

cc:

Wendy Johnston, VESTRA Resources, Inc., Redding, CA
Tim Potanovic, Tehama County Environmental Health, Red Bluff, CA
George Robson, Tehama County Planning, Red Bluff, CA
Southern Pacific Trans Co., Omaha, NE
Mathew and Megan Alston, Orland, CA
Roy W Klingenberg Trustee, Chico, CA
Chas Vandoorn, Corning, CA
Margaret D. Poteet, Bethany, OK
Jack R Wood Trustee, Sacramento, CA
Patricia B Michaels Trustee, Los Gatos, CA
Geo A Etal Poncia TRS, Orland, CA
Maxine D. Dunlop, Fresno, CA
Rajinder S. Chohan, Yuba City, CA
Paul Archer, Orland, CA
Geo Edward Archer, Flourney, CA
Norman and Kenneth Zimmerman, Orland, CA